

LAGRANGE COUNTY, INDIANA

Highlights



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Lagrange County, IN Highlights

Introduction

The first edition of the *County Highlights* was published in 1993. Lillian Miles, then Labor Market Analyst for the Gary Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area, originated the idea for this descriptive area publication.

Highlights are now a web publication and, as a result, the data can be updated throughout the year, not just on an annual basis. These *Highlights* are available in easy-to-use web format but are also printable and e-mailable and provide a snapshot of critical population and workforce statistics for each of Indiana’s 92 counties, 11 Economic Growth Regions, and the State of Indiana.

Each *Highlights* includes an overview of the demographics and workforce of an area, from its population to the size of its labor force and the industry mix of jobs and wages.

Don’t hesitate to contact your regional analyst, Sharon Ringenberg (260-469-4217) if you need further information about your area.



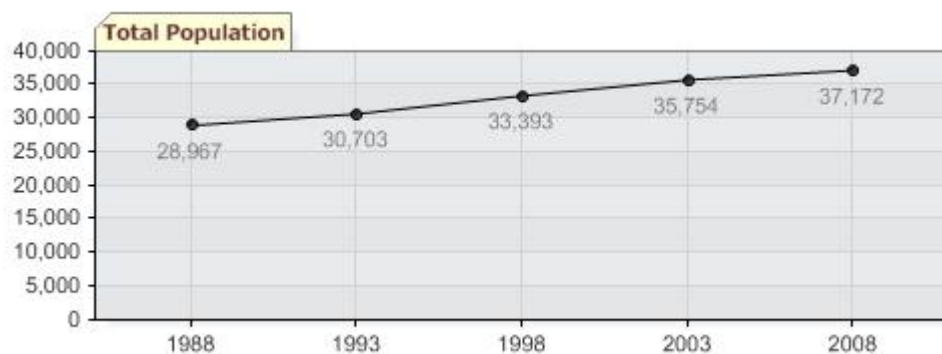
Location

LaGrange County is located in north east Indiana. The county is bordered on the south by Noble County. Steuben County is adjacent to LaGrange County on the east, the State of Michigan is to the north, and Elkhart County to the west. LaGrange County is one of the eleven counties located in the area designated by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development as Indiana Economic Growth Region 3.

Population

A region's economy thrives or dives because of the people who choose to live there. That choice may occur by being born there and desiring to stay, or a more deliberate one of choosing to relocate from somewhere else. Monitoring change in the size and movement of population is an important barometer of well-being. Some of us monitor these changes as an insect might gauge the shifting sands while most don't pay much attention. But the barometer is a good metaphor for population change since it can presage more notable events, such as lackluster business attraction due to lack of workers.

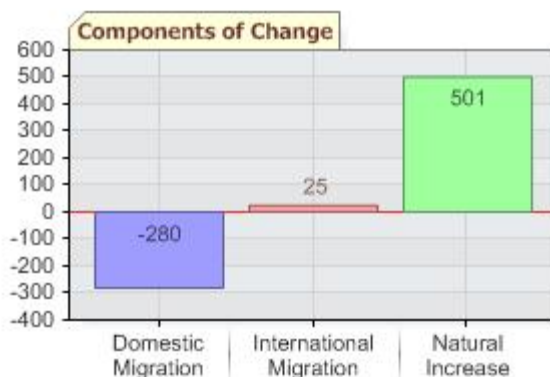
Population Over Time					
	1988	1993	1998	2003	2008
Total Population	28,967	30,703	33,393	35,754	37,172
Change Since 1988		1,736	4,426	6,787	8,205
Pct. Change Since 1988		6.0%	15.3%	23.4%	28.3%



Source: US Census Bureau

Components of Population Change 2007 to 2008

	Number
Net Domestic Migration	-280
International Migration	25
Natural Increase (births minus deaths)	501
Births	739
Deaths	238



Source: US Census Bureau

Population Estimates by Age in 2007

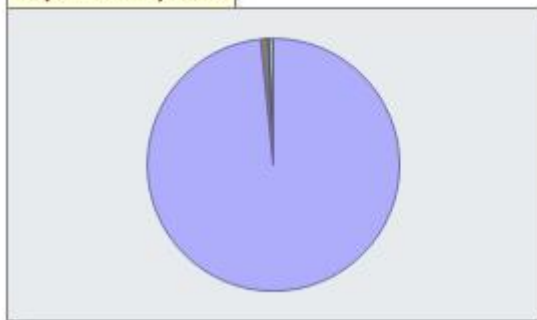
	Number	Pct. Dist
Preschool	3,557	9.6%
School Age	8,397	22.7%
College Age	2,826	7.7%
Young Adult	10,291	27.9%
Older Adult	7,776	21.1%
Older (65 plus)	4,185	11.3%

Source: US Census Bureau

Population Estimates by Race and Hispanic Origin in 2007

	Number	Pct. Dist
American Ind. or Alaskan Native Alone	50	0.1%
Asian Alone	185	0.5%
Black Alone	113	0.3%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pac. Isl. Alone	3	0.0%
White Alone	36,431	98.7%
Two or More Race Groups	250	0.7%

Population by Race



98.66 %	White
0.31 %	Black
0.14 %	Am. Ind or Alaskan Native
0.50 %	Asian
0.01 %	Hawaiian and Pac. Isl
0.68 %	Two or More

Hispanic or Latino

Non-Hispanic or Latino	35,639	96.5%
Hispanic or Latino	1,393	3.8%

Source: US Census Bureau

Households in 2000

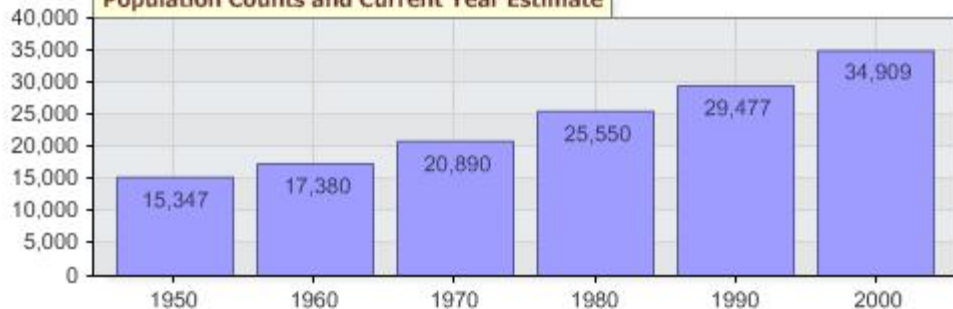
	Number	Pct. Dist
Total Households	11,225	100.0%
Family Households	8,856	78.9%
Married with Children	3,873	34.5%
Married without Children	3,777	33.6%
Single Parents	683	6.1%
Other	523	4.7%
Non-family Households	2,369	21.1%
Living Alone	2,025	18.0%
Average Household Size	3.11	
Average Family Household Size	3.95	

Source: US Census Bureau

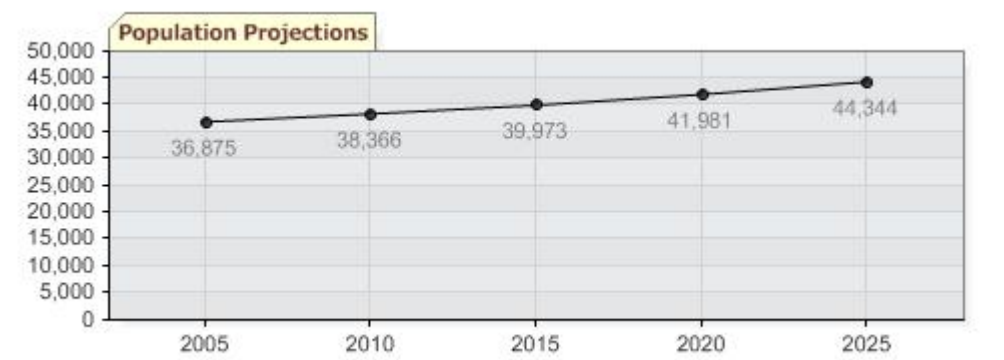
Population Counts by Decade and Current Year Estimate

	Population	Numerical Chg.	Pct. Chg.
1950	15,347	NA	NA
1960	17,380	2,033	13.2%
1970	20,890	3,510	20.2%
1980	25,550	4,660	22.3%
1990	29,477	3,927	15.4%
April 2000	34,909	5,432	18.4%
2007	N/A	N/A	N/A

Population Counts and Current Year Estimate



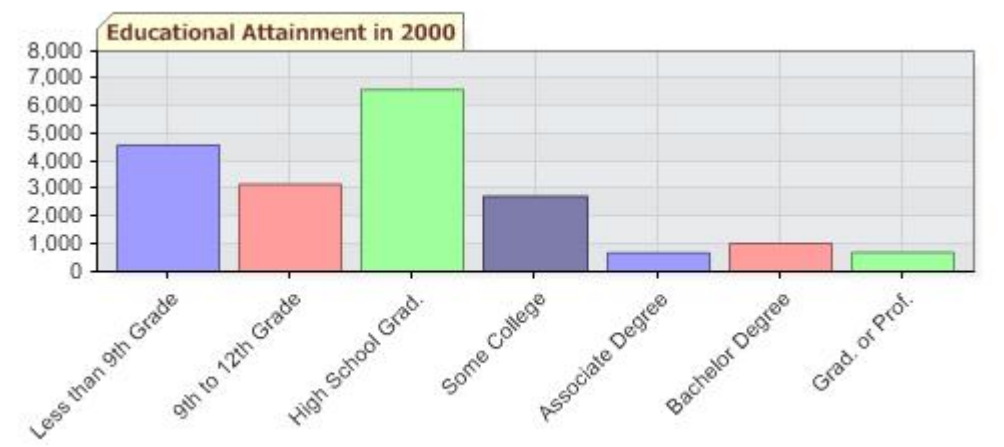
Population Projections					
	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
Population Projections	36,875	38,366	39,973	41,981	44,344
Change Since 2005		1,491	3,098	5,106	7,469
Pct. Change Since 2005		4.0%	8.4%	13.8%	20.3%



Education

The level of education of our workforce is a critical factor for economic and community development. It often provides insight into the skill levels of a local area. The metrics provided here focus on the attainment of degrees and high school graduates' higher education intent. The type of work (occupations) residents perform can also assist in understanding skill levels.

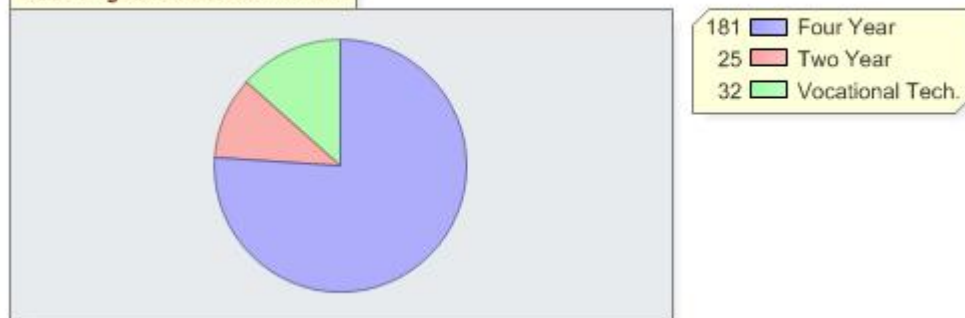
Educational Attainment				
	1970	1980	1990	2000
Total Population 25 and Older	10,109	13,161	16,100	19,519
Less than 9th Grade	3,638	3,673	3,729	4,596
9th to 12th, No Diploma	2,094	2,560	3,250	3,174
High School Graduate (incl. equiv.)	3,324	4,870	5,516	6,611
Some College, No Degree			1,816	2,736
Associate Degree			608	673
Bachelors Degree			623	1,036
Graduate or Professional Degree			558	693



High School Graduates Going on to Higher Education

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total Graduates	333	348	350	325
Total to Higher Education	256	271	247	238
Four-Year Institution	177	192	186	181
Two-Year Institution	39	34	17	25
Vocational/Tech.	40	45	44	32
Military	8	12	11	11

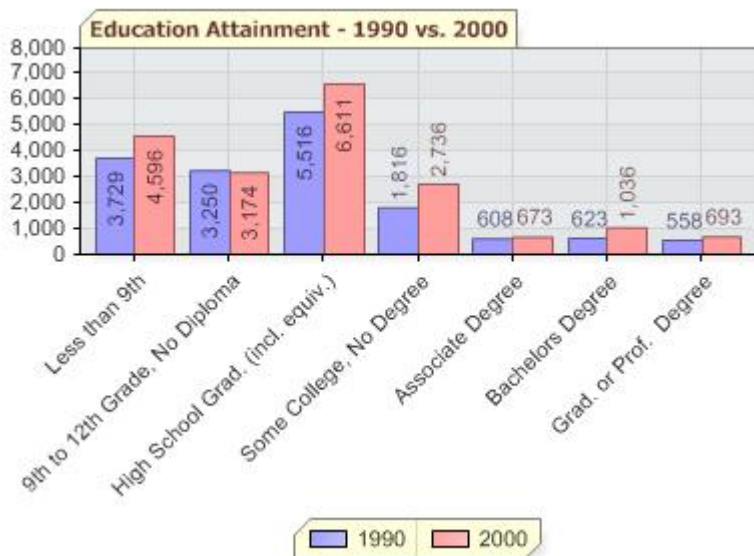
2007 Higher Education Intent



Source: Indiana Department of Education

Educational Attainment in 1990 and 2000

	1990	Pct. of Pop. 25+	2000	Pct. of Pop. 25+
Total Population 25+	16,100	100.0%	19,519	100.0%
Less than 9th Grade	3,729	23.2%	4,596	23.5%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	3,250	20.2%	3,174	16.3%
High School Graduate (incl. equivalency)	5,516	34.3%	6,611	33.9%
Some College, No Degree	1,816	11.3%	2,736	14.0%
Associate Degree	608	3.8%	673	3.4%
Bachelors Degree	623	3.9%	1,036	5.3%
Graduate or Professional Degree	558	3.5%	693	3.6%

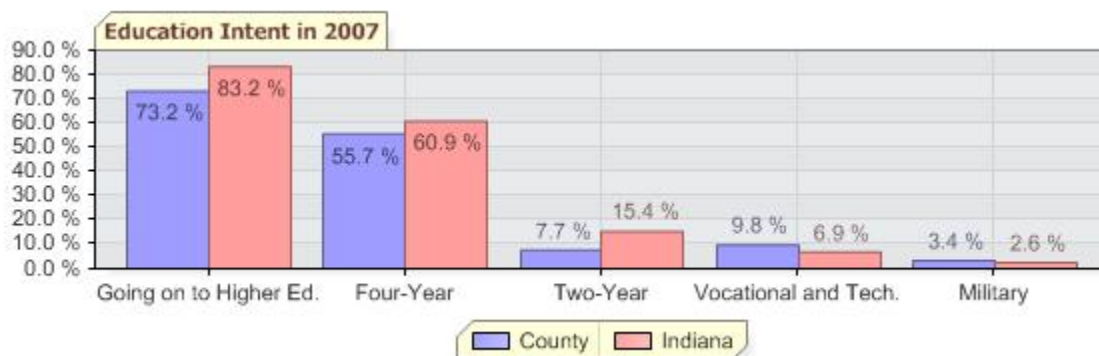


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

High School Graduates Higher Education Intent

	2007 Pct. Dist.	Indiana Pct. Dist.

Graduates	100.0%	100.0%
Total Going on to Higher Education	73.2%	83.2%
Four-Year Institution	55.7%	60.9%
Two-Year Institution	7.7%	15.4%
Vocational and Tech.	9.8%	6.9%
Military	3.4%	2.6%



Source: Indiana Department of Education

Commuting

In Indiana, most workers commute to a job, either within their home county or beyond. Patterns of commuting are significant in showing the labor supply. The county *labor force* represents workers who reside in the county no matter where they work. Two types of commuting patterns are provided here - the Census 2000 *benchmark* and the annual data tabulated from state income tax returns that can help provide a more current view.

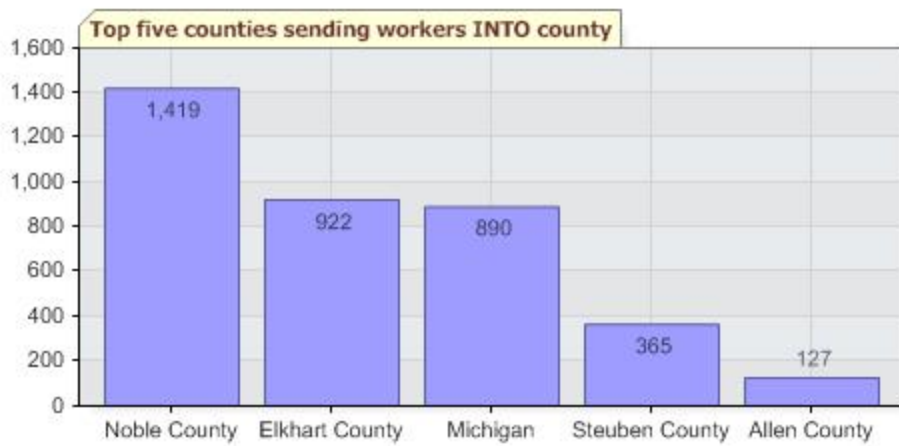
Commuting Data, 2007

	Number
Number of tax filers who live in county and work	23,530
Number of tax filers who work in the county	21,051
Number of tax filers who live in county and work in county	16,851
Number of tax filers who live out of the county and work in county	4,200

Source: Indiana Department of Revenue

Commuting Patterns: Top five counties sending workers INTO county, 2007

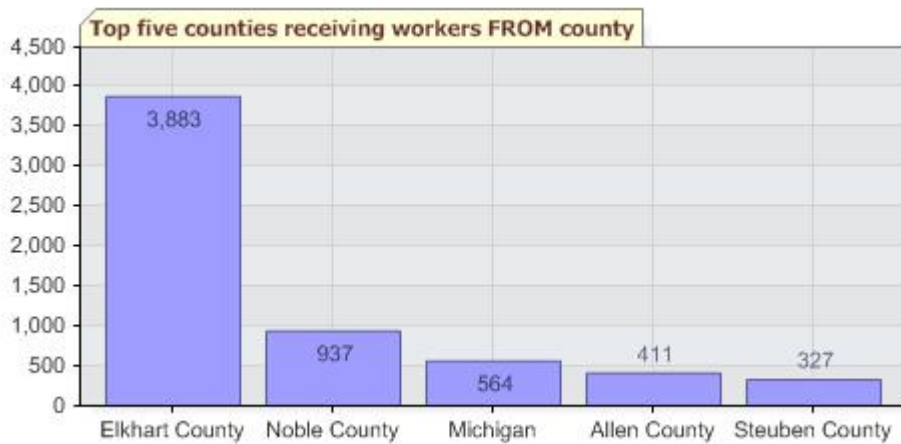
County	Number	Pct. Five County Total
Noble County	1,419	40.7%
Elkhart County	922	26.5%
Michigan	890	25.6%
Steuben County	365	10.5%
Allen County	127	3.2%



Source: Indiana Department of Revenue

Commuting Patterns: Top five counties receiving workers FROM county, 2007

County	Number	Pct. Five County Total
Elkhart County	3,883	63.4%
Noble County	937	15.3%
Michigan	564	9.2%
Allen County	411	6.7%
Steuben County	327	5.3%



Source: Indiana Department of Revenue

Travel To Work in 2000

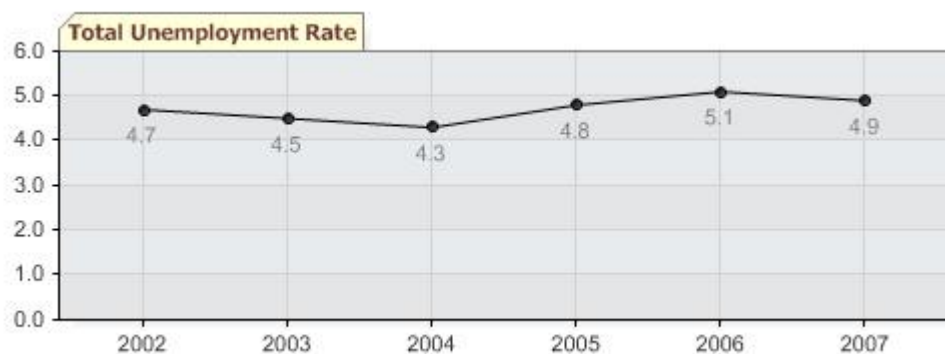
	Number	Pct. Dist
Total Workers Age 16 and Over	15,700	100.0%
Travel To Work	14,647	93.3%
Car, Truck, or Van	13,319	84.8%
Traveled Alone	9,462	60.3%
Carpooled	3,857	24.6%
Used Public Transportation	82	0.5%
Motorcycle, Bicycle, Walked, Other	1,246	7.9%
Worked At Home	1,053	6.7%
Average Travel Time (Minutes)	21.4	
Average Travel Time using Public Transportation (Minutes)	33.1	

Labor Force

An area's labor force provides insight on the availability factor and is residence-based - that is, the people are working or seeking work and reside in the particular county or region.

Annual Labor Force Estimates in 2007

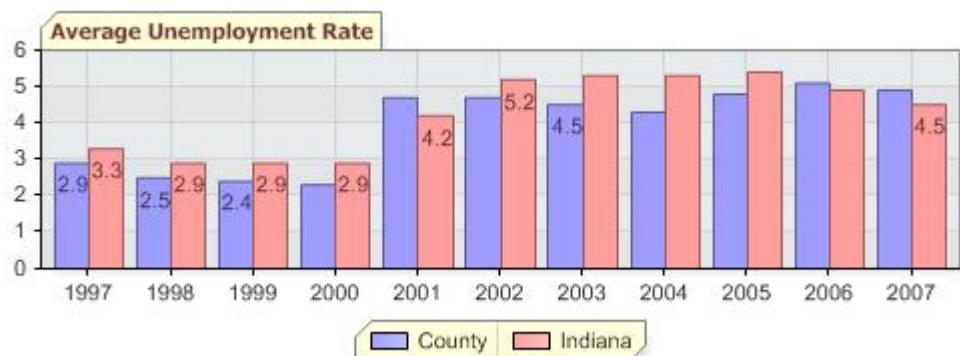
	Number	Pct. Chg. from 2000
Labor Force	17,098	0.6%
Employed	16,265	-2.1%
Unemployed	833	116.4%
Rate	4.9	113.0%



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Labor Force Estimates

	Labor Force	Emp.	Unemp.	Cnty. Rate	State Rate
1997	17,166	16,674	492	2.9	3.3
1998	17,425	16,989	436	2.5	2.9
1999	17,686	17,256	430	2.4	2.9
2000	16,993	16,608	385	2.3	2.9
2001	16,555	15,774	781	4.7	4.2
2002	16,560	15,780	780	4.7	5.2
2003	16,463	15,724	739	4.5	5.3
2004	16,756	16,041	715	4.3	5.3
2005	17,312	16,474	838	4.8	5.4
2006	17,511	16,619	892	5.1	4.9
2007	17,098	16,265	833	4.9	4.5



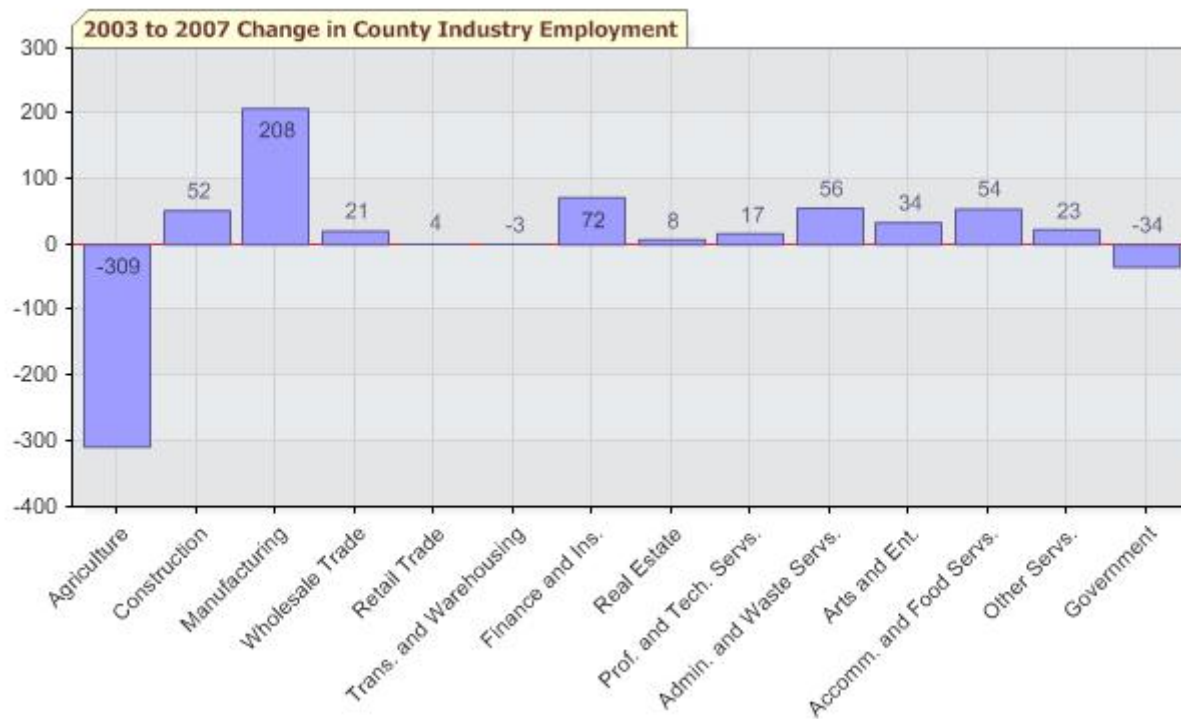
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Employment

Industry employment is tabulated as jobs by place-of-work. Keep in mind that people may hold multiple jobs and that each job is counted by its industry.

Average Employment by Sector

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Change 2003-2007	% Change 2003-2007
Total Employment	12,135	12,379	12,358	12,518	12,362	227	1.87%
Total Private Employment	10,734	10,968	10,983	11,135	10,995	261	2.43%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunt	412	358	100	79	103	-309	-75.00%
Mining	D	D	D	D	D	N/A	N/A
Construction	424	441	460	448	476	52	12.26%
Manufacturing	5,689	5,843	6,106	6,201	5,897	208	3.66%
Wholesale Trade	529	517	533	540	550	21	3.97%
Retail Trade	1,224	1,213	1,178	1,239	1,228	4	0.33%
Transport. and Warehousing	92	118	81	69	89	-3	-3.26%
Utilities	26	28	30	D	D	N/A	N/A
Information	D	D	34	34	34	N/A	N/A
Finance and Insurance	230	228	245	303	302	72	31.30%
Real Estate, Rental, Leasing	36	36	41	48	44	8	22.22%
Professional and Tech. Servs.	152	154	157	159	169	17	11.18%
Mgmt. of Companies	D	91	29	D	D	N/A	N/A
Admin. and Waste Services	38	47	47	57	94	56	147.37%
Educational Services	D	D	D	D	D	N/A	N/A
Health Care and Social Assistance	568	601	680	667	650	N/A	N/A
Arts, Entertain., and Recreation	15	25	38	49	49	34	226.67%
Accommodation and Food Service	869	899	891	866	923	54	6.21%
Other Services	218	238	245	234	241	23	10.55%
Federal, State, & Local Govt.	1,401	1,411	1,375	1,383	1,367	-34	-2.43%

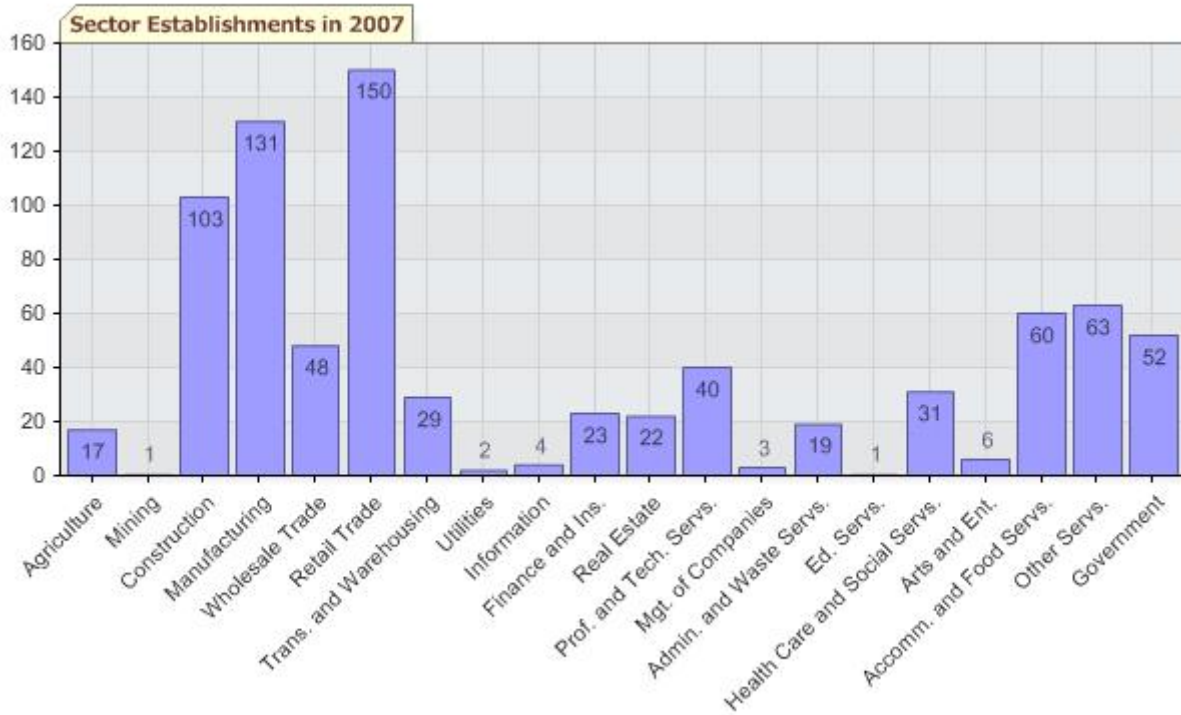


Note: D = non-discloseable in compliance with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and/or State of Indiana confidentiality guidelines. Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, as of January 29, 2009

Establishments by Sector

Change % Change

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2003-2007	2003-2007
Total Establishments	703	730	759	773	801	98	13.94%
Total Private Establishments	656	684	712	725	749	93	14.18%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunt	14	15	18	16	17	3	21.43%
Mining	D	D	D	D	D	N/A	N/A
Construction	95	100	102	101	103	8	8.42%
Manufacturing	108	112	123	127	131	23	21.30%
Wholesale Trade	36	37	45	50	48	12	33.33%
Retail Trade	131	138	140	143	150	19	14.50%
Transport. and Warehousing	21	22	21	23	29	8	38.10%
Utilities	3	3	3	D	D	-1	-33.33%
Information	D	D	4	4	4	N/A	N/A
Finance and Insurance	26	26	21	23	23	-3	-11.54%
Real Estate, Rental, Leasing	16	18	22	22	22	6	37.50%
Professional and Tech. Servs.	38	37	37	37	40	2	5.26%
Mgmt. of Companies	D	4	3	D	D	N/A	N/A
Admin. and Waste Services	15	15	15	16	19	4	26.67%
Educational Services	D	D	D	D	D	N/A	N/A
Health Care and Social Assistance	29	29	28	30	31	2	6.90%
Arts, Entertain., and Recreation	4	8	8	8	6	2	50.00%
Accommodation and Food Service	54	56	58	58	60	6	11.11%
Other Services	59	60	63	63	63	4	6.78%
Federal, State, & Local Govt.	47	46	47	48	52	5	10.64%



Note: D = non-discloseable in compliance with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and/or State of Indiana confidentiality guidelines. Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, as of January 29, 2009

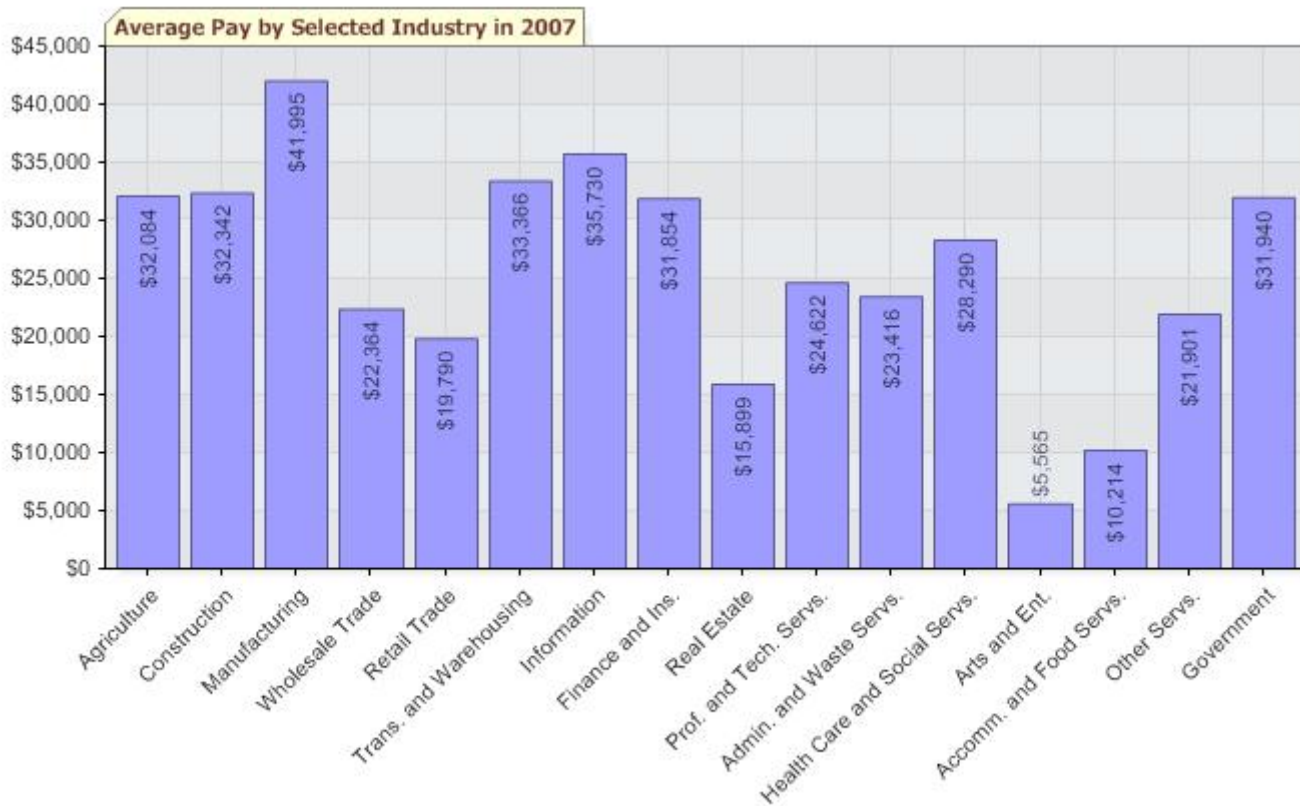
Earnings and Income

Industry employment is tabulated as jobs by place-of-work. Keep in mind that people may hold multiple jobs and that each job is counted by its industry. Note: The income figures and changes are not adjusted for inflation.

Average Annual Earnings by Industry

Change % Change Indiana % of

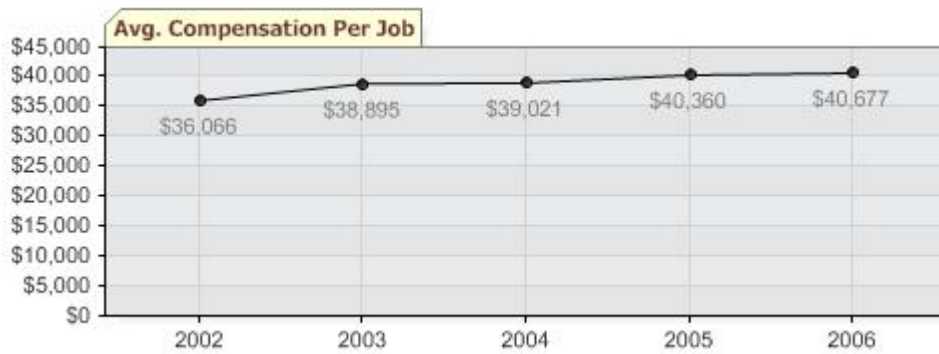
	2003	2007	2003-2007	2003-2007	2007	State
All Industries	\$29,969	\$32,817	\$2,848	9.5%	\$37,530	87.4%
Ag., For., Fishing, & Hunt.	\$24,873	\$32,084	\$7,211	29.0%	\$28,008	114.6%
Mining	D	D	N/A	N/A	\$57,315	N/A
Construction	\$28,741	\$32,342	\$3,600	12.5%	\$44,754	72.3%
Manufacturing	\$38,410	\$41,995	\$3,584	9.3%	\$51,148	82.1%
Wholesale Trade	\$19,409	\$22,364	\$2,955	15.2%	\$51,432	43.5%
Retail Trade	\$17,601	\$19,790	\$2,188	12.4%	\$22,581	87.6%
Trans. & Warehousing	\$26,236	\$33,366	\$7,131	27.2%	\$38,012	87.8%
Utilities	\$43,594	D	N/A	N/A	\$68,267	N/A
Information	D	\$35,730	N/A	N/A	\$46,311	77.2%
Finance & Insurance	\$29,462	\$31,854	\$2,392	8.1%	\$52,649	60.5%
Real Est., Rent., Leasing	\$14,427	\$15,899	\$1,472	10.2%	\$32,614	48.8%
Prof. & Tech. Svcs.	\$23,105	\$24,622	\$1,517	6.6%	\$51,451	47.9%
Mgt.of Companies	D	D	N/A	N/A	\$72,682	N/A
Admin. & Waste Svcs.	\$20,837	\$23,416	\$2,579	12.4%	\$24,934	93.9%
Education Svcs.	D	D	N/A	N/A	\$31,029	N/A
Health Care & Social Assist.	\$26,177	\$28,290	\$2,113	8.1%	\$37,706	75.0%
Arts, Ent. & Rec.	\$12,806	\$5,565	-\$7,242	-56.5%	\$29,251	19.0%
Accom. & Food Svcs.	\$10,099	\$10,214	\$116	1.1%	\$12,442	82.1%
Other Svcs.	\$17,990	\$21,901	\$3,911	21.7%	\$24,862	88.1%
Fed.I, State & Local Govt.	\$30,373	\$31,940	\$1,567	5.2%	\$37,054	86.2%



Note: D = non-discloseable in compliance with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and/or State of Indiana confidentiality guidelines. Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, as of January 29, 2009

Average Compensation Per Job Over Time

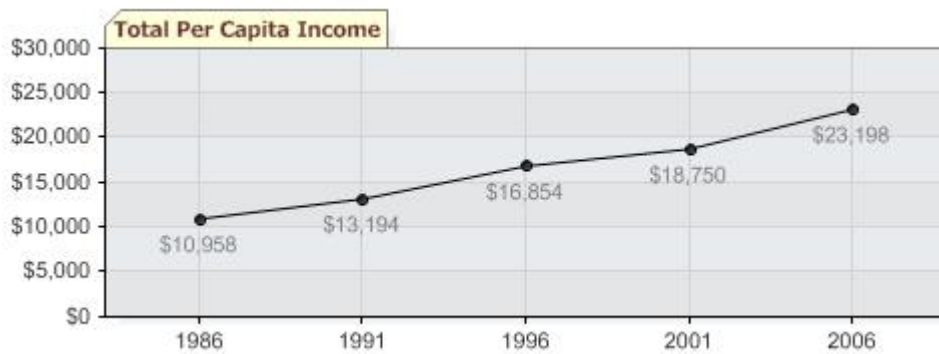
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Avg. Compensation per Job	\$36,066	\$38,895	\$39,021	\$40,360	\$40,677
Change Since 2002		\$2,829	\$2,955	\$4,294	\$4,611
Pct. Change Since 2002		7.8%	8.2%	11.9%	12.8%



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Per Capita Income Over Time

	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006
Total Per Capita Income	\$10,958	\$13,194	\$16,854	\$18,750	\$23,198
Change Since 1986		\$2,236	\$5,896	\$7,792	\$12,240
Pct. Change Since 1986		20.4%	53.8%	71.1%	111.7%



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Income & Wage

	Number
Median family income in 2007 (ACS)	N/A
Median household income in 2007 (ACS)	N/A
Average Wage Per Job in 2007 (BLS)	\$32,815
Wage Growth since 1997 (BLS)	35.6%

Source: US Census Bureau & Bureau of Labor Statistics

Firms and Employment by Size

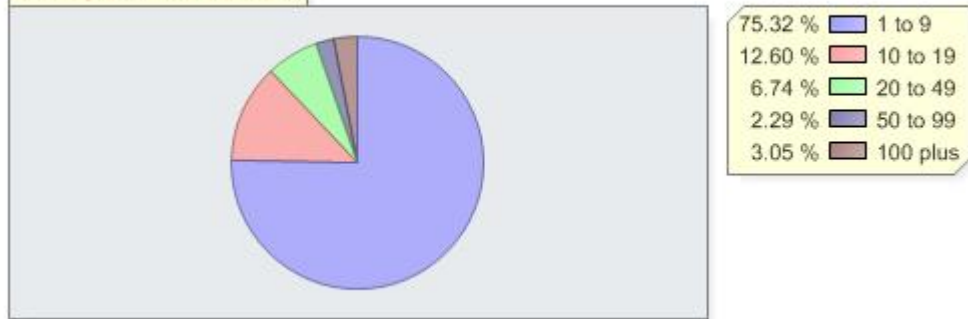
Firm data are available for most counties by the size of the firms and average employment by business unit size.

County Business Patterns, 2006

	Establishments	Number Chg. 01 to 06	Pct.Chg. 01 to 06	Pct. of Total
1-9 employees	592	75	14.5%	75.3%
10-19 employees	99	3	3.1%	12.6%
20-49 employees	53	1	1.9%	6.7%

50-99 employees	18	0	0.0%	2.3%
100 plus employees	24	5	26.3%	3.1%
TOTAL	786	84	12.0%	100.0%

County Business Patterns

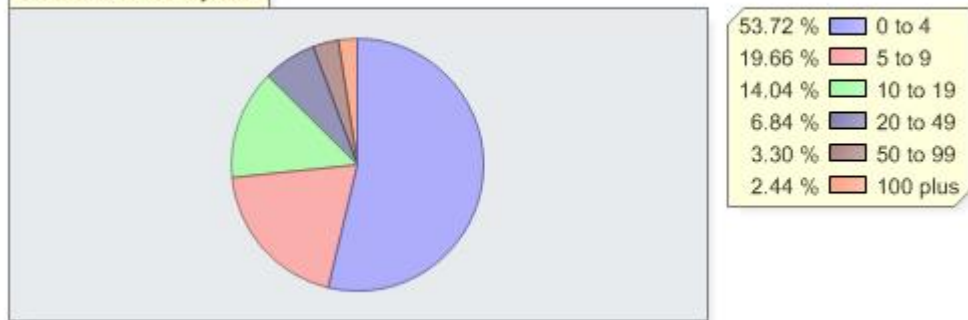


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Firms by Size, 2008:3

	Number of Business Units, 2008:2	Pct. of Total
0 to 4 employees	440	53.7%
5 to 9 employees	161	19.7%
10 to 19 employees	115	14.0%
20 to 49 employees	56	6.8%
50 to 99 employees	27	3.3%
100 plus employees	20	2.4%
TOTAL	819	100.0%

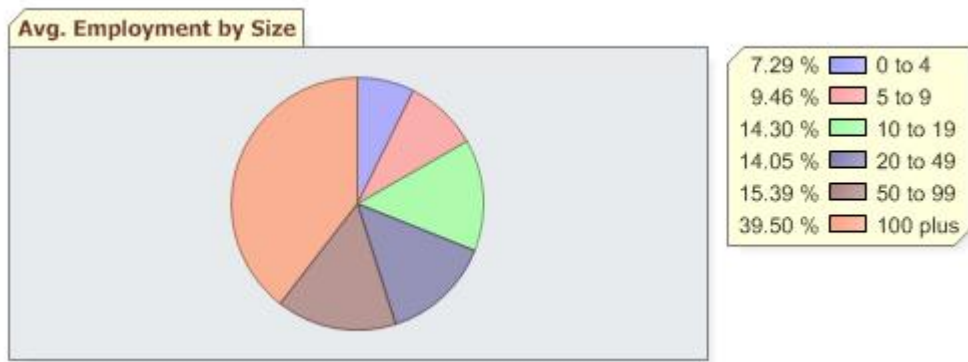
Business Units by Size



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Covered Employment; Note: Business Units with zero employees and Federal Government Employees are included.

Avg. Employment by Business Unit Size, 2008:3

	Avg. Employment, 2008:2	Pct. of Total
0 to 4 employees	837	7.3%
5 to 9 employees	1,087	9.5%
10 to 19 employees	1,642	14.3%
20 to 49 employees	1,614	14.1%
50 to 99 employees	1,768	15.4%
100 plus employees	4,537	39.5%
TOTAL	11,485	100.0%



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Covered Employment; Note: Business Units with zero employees and Federal Government Employees are included.